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(54) Title: DNA DOSAGE FORMS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to efficient devices for administration of DNA based pharmaceutical agents into mammalian skin. In a particularly preferred aspect of the present invention there is provided devices for administration of DNA vaccines into the skin of the mammal, and preferably into human skin. The present invention provides a microneedle DNA pharmaceutical agent delivery device having at least one skin-piercing element which comprises a support member coated with a solid reservoir medium containing, in solid solution or suspension within it, the DNA pharmaceutical agent, and a stabilising agent that inhibits the degradative effects of free radicals. Preferably the solid pharmaceutical reservoir medium coated onto such devices is a polyol, preferably being a polyol in an amorphous state (such as a glass).

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A61M37/00 A61B17/20 C12N15/89 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61K C12N A61M A61B IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal, EMBASE, BIOSIS C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-27 WO 96 13277 A (THE REGENTS OF THE Α UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA) 9 May 1996 (1996-05-09) page 1, line 16 - line 20 page 31, line 13 - line 14 page 37, line 12 - line 16 page 57 -page 58; example 5 page 75; claim 19 1 - 27WO 97 40839 A (MERCK & CO., INC.) Α 6 November 1997 (1997-11-06) cited in the application claims 1-43 1 - 27EP 1 138 337 A (QUADRANT HOLDINGS Α CAMBRIDGE) 4 October 2001 (2001-10-04) claims 1-3,20,27,28 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the levertice. "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone earlier document but published on or after the International filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 26/08/2003 15 August 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Benz, K

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